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ABSTRACT

This book explores the history and evolution of six innovative colleges, examining how these institutions have adapted and transformed themselves in today's social, political, and economic environments. The book contends that these institutions, which emerged in the 1960s and 1970s, can serve as models today. Case study chapters describe the following institutions: (1) Pitzer College, Claremont, California; (2) New College of the University of South Florida, Sarasota; (3) Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts; (4) University of Wisconsin, Green Bay; (5) University of California, Santa Cruz; and (6) the Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington. Among the ideas implemented at these schools and described in the case studies are: individualized majors, student participation in curriculum development, independent studies, experiential learning, interdisciplinarity, narrative evaluations instead of letter grades, and flexible administration. Appendices include information on the "Innovative College and University Consultant Panel," the master list of innovative institutions of the 1960s and 1970s, a list of candidates for innovative institutions, and an explanation of the study's research methodology. (Individual chapters contain references.) (DB)

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